



URBAN DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON

ANNUAL REPORT

on

The Health of the Area

For the Year

1957

Report presented by

The Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Public Health Inspector



Photograph by The British Travel and Holidays Association

GOODRINGTON SANDS, PAIGNTON



Photograph by The British Travel and Holidays Association

POSITIVE HEALTH—on *Paignton Sands*



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INTRODUCTION

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
OLDWAY, PAIGNTON

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present herewith the Annual Report on the Health of the Area for the Year 1957. The Report is drawn up on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health. It covers a period during which Dr. D. K. MacTaggart was your Medical Officer of Health. He resigned his Appointment on September 30th, 1957, to take up similar duties at Torquay. From then until the end of the year he acted as part-time Medical Officer to your Authority, as well as to the Borough of Dartmouth and the Urban District of Brixham.

The beginning of this Report is concerned with health statistics and similar information, and is followed by the Report of your Chief Public Health Inspector in respect of the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area. Sections D and E are brief reports on other work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors. Finally, there is a brief summary of the Report on the Riparian Health District of Paignton, full details of which were sent to the Ministry of Health in March, 1958.

Positive Health

There is something refreshing about the people one meets at a seaside holiday resort. On the one hand there are the visitors who come here to enjoy their holiday and build up their health and strength, enabling them to face the rigors of another winter at home and at work, and then there are the residents, many of whom make it their job to provide the needs of the visitors. Finally, there are the old folk who come down to the tranquil beauty of this area to retire. The whole atmosphere is dynamic and full of vitality.

Vital Statistics

During 1957 the Registrar General estimated that the population of Paignton increased by 480 persons to a total of 26,260. There were 274 births, an increase of 23 over the previous year, but owing to the high proportion of old folk in the town the Birth Rate at 12.2 per 1,000 population is still lower than the National

average of 16.1. There were 36 more deaths than during 1956, but in my opinion this is of little significance in a town which is growing at a steady rate each year, particularly as more and more old folk move into the town. Dr. MacTaggart, in his 1956 Report, drew attention to the Infant Mortality Rate being at its lowest ever, namely 15.93 per 1,000 live births. In 1957 there was only one recorded infant death, giving a rate of 3.6 per 1,000 live births. This further improvement is, however, more likely to be attributable to the normal fluctuations which occur when dealing with relatively small numbers, than to any other cause. Nevertheless, it is most welcome.

Infectious Diseases

Apart from a small outbreak of suspected food poisoning in the third quarter of the year, there were no serious outbreaks of illness. The suspected food poisoning occurred amongst a group of children on holiday at a camp. All the bacteriological investigations were negative, and no cause for the occurrence could be ascertained.

Causes of Death

By far the greatest single cause of death arose from disease of the heart and circulation. In this group were 296 deaths, or approximately 58% of the total. Cancer at 92 deaths caused 18% of the deaths. There were only 47 deaths from respiratory illnesses. There were no fatal motor vehicle accidents affecting local residents, but 11 people died as a result of all other accidents.

Environmental Health

The Water Undertaking continued to expand. The drinking water remains adequate in quantity, and is of a very high standard of quality. Nearly all the dwellings in the area are supplied from the Council's mains.

The Surveyor reports extensions to the sewers, and alterations to existing sewers to overcome flooding previously experienced in Goodrington Road, near Grange Farm. Proposals for new public conveniences, all equipped to provide for the free use of wash-hand basins, were being drawn up.

The Public Health Inspectors continue to carry out the routine duties connected with the Sanitary Inspection of the District. Their work is vital to the health of the town. They are responsible for testing drainage installations, particularly to new dwellings, and they also arrange disinfestation and disinfection of premises and articles.

Rodent control is a continuous battle, and during 1957, out of 984 properties inspected, 345, or approximately one in three, required treatment, chiefly against rats.

Camping sites received regular visits and advice was given to the managements concerned, where appropriate.

Inspections of premises were carried out under the Housing and Public Health Acts, chiefly in connection with defects or statutory nuisances, and Certificates of Disrepair, under the Rent Act, 1957, were issued on 12 occasions.

Food inspection occupied a great deal of the Inspector's time. Apart from systematic routine inspections of all food premises, including shops, cafes, restaurants, and hotel kitchens, nearly 5,000 animals were inspected at the Council's Slaughterhouse at Luscombe Lane.

The Department has also initiated research into the bacteriology of shellfish, especially crab meat, with the object of trying to formulate a standard of quality for that foodstuff. Your Chief Public Health Inspector has enlisted the co-operation of the traders concerned, as well as the Public Health Laboratory at Exeter. The work is essentially seasonal, and will probably take several years before conclusive results are obtained.

In conclusion I wish to record my appreciation of the help I have received from the Council and Staff, all of which has made it possible to produce this Report.

JOHN WILDMAN,
Medical Officer of Health

Paignton.

25th November, 1958.

PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

D. K. MacTAGGART, M.A., M.B., Ch.B.(Aberd.), D.P.H.
(Lond.). (Resigned : 30th September, 1957).

JOHN H. WILDMAN, M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond).,
D.P.H.(Lond.). (Appointed : 1st January, 1958).

(Also Medical Officer of Health, Brixham U.D.C. and
Borough of Dartmouth, and Assistant County Medical
Officer, Devon County Council.)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Municipal Offices, Oldway,
PAIGNTON, DEVON.

Telephone : PAIGNTON 82214

(M.O.H. Private Telephone : Brixham 3113)

Public Health Inspectors

S. H. BONE, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., Meat Cert., M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Housing Officer, Explosives and Petroleum Officer.

W. D. MUGFORD, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., Meat Cert., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

F. C. BIDGOOD, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., Meat Cert., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector.

Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Clerical

Mrs. S. BEAUMONT (M.O.H. Clerk).

Miss N. HART

Mrs. R. VILLIS

Other

C. J. TURPIN, Disinfector.

A. L. DOHERTY, Rodent Operator.

I. J. WILLIAMS, Abattoir Attendant.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee for the Session 1957-58 was Councillor G. W. CORNELIUS, J.P., and the Vice-Chairman was Councillor Mrs. E. A. Flemons. Also on the Committee were Councillors E. M. Bishop, Mrs. M. B. Bolton, J. Coles, F. E. Craze, J.P., Mrs. M. I. Dixon, A. C. Jenkins, J. C. P. Kingsland, Mrs. E. C. Mumford, T. S. Sharp, J.P., A. B. Steart and A. J. Tremeer, J.P., C.C.

SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS, 1957

Table 1

Population			
ESTIMATED (MID-YEAR) POPULATION			26,260
Natural increase or decrease	.....	.....	— 236
Migration in or out	.....	.....	+ 716
Total increase or decrease	.....	.....	+ 480
 General Statistics			
AREA IN ACRES	.....	.....	5,188
Area of pleasure grounds (acres)	.....	.....	349.024
Area of foreshore (acres)	.....	.....	151.300
Length of coastline	.....	.....	4.58 miles
Coastline owned by Council	.....	.....	3.66 miles
 NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES AT END OF 1957 (according to Rate Books)			
	.....		9,675
Number of houses per acre	.....	.....	1.87
Number of persons per acre	.....	.....	5.1
Number of persons per house	.....	.....	2.7
RATEABLE VALUE OF DISTRICT	.....		£486,004
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE			£1,937

Table 2

Births

STANDARDISED BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 population)	12.4
------------------------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------

Area Comparability Factor	1.24
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NUMBER OF BIRTHS : TOTAL	274
--------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Male	146
------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Female	128
--------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Legitimate	260
------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Illegitimate	14
--------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	----

Deaths

STANDARDISED DEATH RATE (per 1,000 population)	12.2
------------------------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------

Area Comparability Factor	0.63
---------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------

NUMBER OF DEATHS : TOTAL	510
--------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Male	242
------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Female	268
--------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

DEATHS OF INFANTS :

Under four weeks of age	0
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Four weeks to one year of age	1
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TOTAL under one year of age	1
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Still Births	6
--------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	---

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE (per 1,000 Related Live Births)	3.6
----------------------------------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Comparison with the Rates for England and Wales

Birth Rate 16.1.	Death Rate 11.5.
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Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Related Live Births)	23.0
----------------------------------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES : Cases Notified during 1957

Table 1

DISEASE	TOTAL	Age Group in Years					
		Under					Over
		1	1—	5—	15—	25—	65
Scarlet Fever	6	0	1	5	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	27	1	11	14	0	1	0
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
Measles	40	0	16	23	1	0	0
Acute Pneumonia	3	0	0	1	0	1	1
Erysipelas	3	0	0	0	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	18	0	1	3	3	10	1
Tuberculosis (Lungs)	11	0	0	0	1	10	0

Table 2

			Incidence by Quarters				
			TOTAL	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	6	3	1	2	0
Whooping Cough		.....	27	23	3	0	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)		.....	2	0	1	1	0
Measles	.....	.....	40	1	22	17	0
Acute Pneumonia		.....	3	0	0	0	3
Erysipelas	.....	.....	3	1	0	1	1
Food Poisoning	.....	.....	18	0	0	16	2
Tuberculosis (Lungs)		.....	11	3	5	2	1

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1957

Line No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
	All causes	242	268	510
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	0	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
4	Diphtheria	0	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
7	Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8	Measles	0	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	4	8
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	2	15
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	11	11
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	5	5
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	30	21	51
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	0	2	2
16	Diabetes	0	3	3
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	32	49	81
18	Coronary disease, angina	45	31	76
19	Hypertension with heart disease	3	6	9
20	Other heart disease	51	62	113
21	Other circulatory disease	8	9	17
22	Influenza	4	2	6
23	Pneumonia	11	10	21
24	Bronchitis	12	4	16
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	4	0	4
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	1	5
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	0	1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0	2
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	3	1	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	35	39
33	Motor vehicle accidents	0	0	0
34	All other accidents	6	5	11
35	Suicide	4	2	6
36	Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
(a)	Still births	3	3	6
(b)	Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	0	0	0
(c)	Deaths of infants four weeks to one year of age	0	1	1

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-51

The County Council are responsible for the implementation of the portions of this Act relating to accommodation for the disabled and aged, temporary accommodation for persons who, by virtue of unforeseen circumstances are without lodgings, and to welfare services for persons handicapped by blindness, deafness, dumbness, crippling physical defects and other disabilities.

The following two Sections of the Act are administered by the Paignton Urban District Council :

Section 47 of the Act of 1948, as amended, relates to the removal to suitable premises of persons who are suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions ; and are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care or attention. No action under this section was necessary during the year.

Section 50 of the Act places on the District Council the duty of arranging for the burial or cremation of the body of any person who has died or been found dead within the district, when it appears to the Authority that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been, or are being made, otherwise than by the Authority. There were no such burials during the year.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN PAIGNTON

LABORATORY SERVICE

A Laboratory is maintained in the Department where simple bacteriological examinations and chemical tests are carried out by your Medical Officer and Public Health Inspectors.

Bacteriological examination of pathological specimens, and samples of milk, water, ice cream and shellfish are otherwise carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at 7 Dix's Field, Exeter (Telephone Exeter 54959).

In addition, specimens for clinical pathology and bacteriology are also dealt with at the Pathology Laboratory, Torbay Hospital, Torquay.

The chemical analysis of water and other samples is undertaken by Messrs. Tickle and Reynolds, Public Analysts, 83 and 84 Queen Street, Exeter.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

The following are some of the County Council Services available under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, Medical Department, 45 St. David's Hill, Exeter, Devon.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres

There are six District Nurse/Midwives, three Health Visitors and a Nursing Assistant. Child Welfare Sessions are held at 14 Midvale Road, Paignton (Telephone Paignton 57555) on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, and at the Baptist Church Hall, Preston, Paignton, on Wednesday afternoons.

Vaccinations, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis, Immunisations

A Medical Officer at the Welfare Centre will vaccinate or immunise babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this service free of charge.

Special sessions of immunisation against Poliomyelitis are also arranged for school children, young persons, young adults and expectant mothers.

Home and Domestic Help

This is a service provided by the County Council through the local W.V.S. It aims to provide domestic help where required by reason of sickness, pregnancy, etc.

The Home Help Organiser for the district is Mrs. M. Fors, 16 Shorton Road, Paignton (Telephone Paignton 57510).

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Station (Telephone Paignton 57602 by day and Paignton 59922 by night) is situated at Mill Yard, Littlegate Road, Paignton.

The Service is under the general direction of the County Medical Officer, but the local administration is carried out by the Paignton St. John Ambulance and Nursing Brigade, under an agency agreement with the Devon County Council.

For infectious disease other than smallpox, ambulance arrangements are made by the Torquay Isolation Hospital (Telephone Torquay 63276) for cases entering the Hospital from the Paignton area.

Special arrangements exist for the treatment of smallpox at Upton Pyne Smallpox Hospital, Exeter. Arrangements for transport of such cases are made through Whipton Isolation Hospital, Exeter.

Except in emergency, an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

Hospital Car Service

The Hospital Car Service (organised by the S.J.A.B., B.R.C.S., and W.V.S.) operates under an agency agreement with the Devon County Council. It transports sitting cases who can enter or leave a vehicle unaided. Arrangements for a hospital car will be made by the hospital, upon application by a Medical Practitioner.

Mental Health

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Duly Authorised Officers, Miss O. F. Evans and Mr. W. J. Gliddon, Central Clinic, Midvale Road, Paignton (Telephone Paignton 57555).

HOSPITAL SERVICES

These are provided by the Torquay and District Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the South-Western Regional Hospital Board.

The Paignton and District Hospital, situated at Church Street, Paignton, is a General Hospital with an establishment of 50 beds.

There is a Recovery Hospital with 24 beds at Kings Ash, Paignton, with a General Practitioner Staff (as for Paignton Hospital).

The District is also served for general cases by the Torbay Hospital, Torquay, whilst cases of infectious disease (except small-pox) are received at the Isolation Hospital, Torquay.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER MEDICAL SERVICE

There are 18 Doctors in General Practice at Paignton.

DENTAL SERVICE

There are 9 Dentists at Paignton, and a School Dental Clinic.

OTHER SERVICES

Nurseries

There are two Nurseries in the District. One, a Resident Nursery, is run privately by Miss Hooper, and situated at 5 Roundham Road, Paignton (Telephone Paignton 57672). The second Nursery is a Day Nursery, situated at the rear of Lower Polsham Road, and is administered by the Paignton Council of Social Service. The Superintendent is Mrs. J. Bewley.

Old People's Welfare

There is a Rest Centre, an Old People's Home, two Old People's Clubs, Friendly Visitors, a Clothing and a Chiropody Service. These are co-ordinated by the Paignton Council of Social Service (Telephone Paignton 57604).

Citizens' Advice Bureau

Sessions are held at the Rest Centre, Bishop's Place, Paignton, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily, except at weekends. Facilities for Marriage Guidance can be arranged.

Infertility and Family Planning Clinics

Clinic sessions at the Central Clinic, 14 Midvale Road, Paignton, are held regularly by the Torbay Branch of the Family Planning Association. Interviews arranged by appointment—Telephone Paignton 82019.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The following details have kindly been supplied by the Water Engineer, Mr. J. C. Peters, A.I.W.E., A.I.Struct.E.

Source of Supply

All the water is obtained from two upland moorland catchment areas, known as the Holne and Swincombe Catchment Areas, on Dartmoor, and from springs at Great Parks Reservoirs, Blagdon, Paignton. Water from Swincombe is piped to the Holne Reservoir.

Distribution

From the impounding Reservoir at Holne the mains convey water to Paignton Service Reservoirs and also distribute water in bulk to the South Devon Water Board, the Urban Districts of Brixham and Teignmouth and the Rural District Council of Newton Abbot.

Approximately 99.7% of the population are supplied with water direct to the houses, and there are no standpipes. A total of 364 new houses were connected to the mains. There are now 130 miles 1717 yards of water mains, an increase of 4 miles, 448 yards since the previous year.

Quantity

The quantity of water available at Holne has been ample. The lowest level recorded of the impounding Reservoir at Holne which has a capacity of 190 million gallons, was 41ft. 10ins., that is to say, 12ft. 2ins. below the top water level.

To augment this supply, 22,015,000 gallons were pumped from Great Parks Reservoirs to Beacon Hill Reservoir during the summer season.

Quality of Supply

Bacteriological and Chemical examinations have been made both of the raw and treated water. The whole of the supply is passed through pressure filters and the naturally acid water is treated with hydrate of lime and subsequently sterilized by the application of gaseous chlorine. Chlorinating and neutralization plants are operating at Holne, acting independently on each trunk main.

Bacteriological Examination of the Raw Water

Samples of untreated water were sent for bacteriological examination, with the following results :

Source of sample	Probable number coliform bacilli per 100 m.l.	
	2 days at 37°C	No. of fæcal coli
Moorland Water		
(a) Swincombe Intake Works	250	0
(b) Holne Water Works	250	0
Surface Springs		
Great Parks Reservoir	110	0

Bacteriological Examination of the Treated Water

21 samples were taken of which 95% contained no faecal coli and fell into Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's Classification for piped supplies.

A bacteriological sample of treated water taken from a tap at the inlet to St. Mary's Reservoir contained no coliform organisms, and fell into Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's Classification for piped supplies.

Chemical Examination of the Raw and Treated Water

The raw water has the character and quality of water drained from a clean moorland catchment area. The water is free from deleterious constituents and possesses no abnormal qualities.

Analysis of the treated water reveals that treatment is fully effective. The water is not plumbosolvent.

The results of analysis of the raw and treated water are tabulated below :

Results in Parts per Million	Raw Water	Treated Water
	Holne Reservoir	St. Mary's Reservoir
Colour	Yellow-green tint	Yellow-green tint
Turbidity	Clear	Clear
Taste	Natural	Natural
Odour	None	None
Suspended Matter	Debris of Vegetation	None
Chlorine as Chlorides	10.0	11.0
Nitrogen as Nitrites	0.0	0.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.0	0.0
Phosphates	0.0	0.0
Free Carbon Dioxide	14.0	
Hardness :		
Total	19.0	27.0
Carbonate (Temporary)	2.0	7.0
Non-Carbonate (Permanent)	17.0	20.0
Free Ammonia	0.0	0.0
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.052	0.052
Oxygen absorbed in 4hrs. at 27°C	1.0	1.5
Metals :		
Lead	0.0	0.0
Copper	0.0	0.0
Zinc	0.0	0.0
Iron (in solution)	0.0	0.0
Iron (sedimentary)	0.0	0.0
Manganese	0.0	0.0
Total Solids	65.0	60.0
Organic Matter in Solids	Trace	Trace
Fluoride as F	0.096	
Reaction pH	5.6	7.4
Free Chlorine	0.0	0.0

New Works

The two new service Reservoirs at Fernicombe (see photographs) and Alston (total capacity 2,500,000 gallons) were completed and put into operation in time for the summer season.

A further scheme which includes the building of a 1,000,000 gallons service Reservoir at Windmill Hill, the installation of boosters on the trunk mains and a deviation in the route of the 15 inch trunk main to St. Mary's Reservoir, has now been approved by the Ministry.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

I am indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. F. Ralph Penwill, F.R.I.C.S., M.I.Mun.E., F.I.A.A., F.R.San.I., for the information on drainage, sewerage and refuse disposal.

Sewage flows to the sewage pumping station in the Clennon Valley, whence it is pumped into a trunk sewer which discharges into the English Channel off Sharkham Point, Brixham (outside Torbay).

Sewerage

280 yards of 21in. and 24in. diameter pipes were laid as a public sewer to serve primarily the Paignton Housing Association's site at Whiterock.

A new screening chamber and 130 yards of 27in. diameter pipe were constructed to overcome the sewer flooding previously experienced in Goodrington Road, near Grange Farm.

Public Conveniences

Proposals will be submitted to the Council during 1958 for an extension to the men's side of the Main Shelter conveniences and for the construction of new conveniences at Three Beaches, Goodrington, and adjacent to Goodrington South Sands Promenade. All new conveniences provide for the free use of wash hand basins.

Refuse Disposal

Ridgeway Claypit is now in use for refuse disposal, and refuse tipping at Clennon Valley has stopped.

During 1957 a total of over 12,000 tons of household refuse was disposed of by tipping.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Drainage and Sewerage

295 houses and flats (including Council houses) were completed during the year and considerable time was given to the supervision of the design and construction of drainage systems. The tests and inspections carried out are classified as follows :

New Buildings

Sewer connections inspected	.....	.....	100
Tests of drainage	.....	.....	722

Existing Buildings

Sewer connections inspected	.....	.....	4
Tests of drainage	.....	.....	122

Choked Drains

Informal action was taken in 67 instances to secure clearance of drainage obstructions.

The Council does not undertake to clear drainage stoppages, and owners are advised to make private arrangements with local building contractors. It is not always appreciated by house owners that their responsibility does not end at the interceptor but extends to the junction with the sewer.

Disinfection and Disinfestation

240 rooms, involving 60 premises, were treated for the following reasons :

Notifiable Disease (ex. Tuberculosis)	.....	4
Tuberculosis	.....	—
Verminous Conditions	.....	16
Other Causes	.....	44
Other Infectious Diseases	.....	16
Mattresses	.....	18
Pillows	.....	65
Cushions	.....	4
Bolsters	.....	1
Blankets	.....	13
Other Articles	.....	15
Eiderdowns	.....	4

Library Books fumigated totalled 12

Camping Sites

34 sites were occupied during the year by tents, caravans and buildings of short lived materials. 9 sites are licensed under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and 9 sites have been granted a licence under the Town Planning Act. 4 sites were used for less than 60 days and 7 sites increased the number of dwellings for a temporary period only. The remaining sites are occupied by structures to which the building bye-laws apply. Although these sites do not require to be licensed, in many cases conditions do approach the standard set for licensed sites.

Sanitary accommodation was increased at 5 sites and the work completed before the commencement of the season. At another 2 sites plans have been approved for the provision of additional sanitary accommodation and this work should be carried out next year.

A survey made during the last week in July gave the following figures :

Number of Campers	.....	8776
Number of Caravans	.....	1317
Number of Huts	.....	662
Number of Tents	.....	723
		<hr/>
		2702
		<hr/>

Clean Air Act, 1956

There was no serious smoke nuisance in the area during the period under review, and minor complaints were overcome following a verbal request.

Swimming Pools

There are 2 swimming pools in use in the Urban area ; both are privately owned and are located at holiday camps.

Filtration and Chlorination plants are installed at both pools.

16 samples were taken during the year, 15 of which proved satisfactory.

Schools

The sanitary conditions and water supplies of schools within the area remain unchanged.

Old Metal or Marine Store Dealers

5 persons are registered as Dealers in Old Metal under Section 86 of The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Licence renewals were granted to the original applicants in respect of 4 premises required to be licensed under the Act.

Rag Flock Act, 1951

Four premises are registered under the Act. No premises are licensed for the manufacture or storage of Rag Flock.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952

Inspections have been made for the purpose of carrying out the duties of this Act.

Shops Act, 1950

The Council is responsible for the administration of the whole of the provisions of the Shops Act.

Informal action was taken in respect of the following :

Provision of washing facilities and sanitary accommodation	11
Repair and redecorate sanitary accommodation	2
Provide sufficient ventilation	2
Hours of closing	104

There are 592 shop premises in the area, to which 468 visits were made for the purposes of the Act.

One Order made by the Devon County Council has been adopted by this Council, thus continuing a policy that has been in operation since 1912. This Order, made under Section 40, suspends the weekly half-holiday during the 4 months June to September.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent Control

In accordance with the instructions issued by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 10% of the sewers in the District are test baited annually. From evidence based on the results of this test two maintenance tests were carried out in the early spring and autumn.

The tests emphasise that very few rats are to be found in the sewers in the elevated parts of the town. Takes were recorded in the sewers in the low-lying parts and although it does not seem possible to eradicate the rats completely from this area, there is no evidence to show that their numbers are increasing.

Treatments to private houses were free of charge, but business premises were charged at the rate of 6/- per hour.

The following Table summarises the incidence of infestation and action taken under the provisions of The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, and is based upon the twelve monthly return submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

	Type of Property				
	Council's Property	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	Business Premises	Total
Number of properties inspected	45	754	12	173	984
Number found to be infested by rats	14	280	2	14	310
Number seriously infested by mice	2	27	0	6	35
Number of properties treated for infestations	16	307	2	20	345
Number of block control schemes carried out	160				

Wasp Nests

A number of requests for assistance in exterminating wasps were received during the year, resulting in the destruction of 43 wasps' nests and one hornets' nest.

Nests located inside buildings are treated initially by spray insecticide to facilitate removal to a safe place. Complete extermination is then effected by fumigation with the gas of Hydrocyanic Acid (HCN).

HOUSING ACTS

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT

Inspection of Dwelling Houses

110 premises were inspected for housing defects or statutory nuisances under the Housing Acts or Public Health Act, and 48 notices were served. The number of inspections made for this purpose was 245. Most of the work was carried out following the service of an Informal Notice, and only in 2 cases was it necessary to serve a Statutory Notice.

3 families of 9 persons were re-housed by the Council, but the houses have not yet been demolished.

Improvement Grants

No applications for financial assistance towards improvement of housing accommodation were granted during the year.

Certificates of Disrepair

12 applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair. 5 undertakings were given by Landlords. 3 Certificates of Disrepair (all defects) and 4 Certificates of Disrepair (some defects only) were issued.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

A. MILK SUPPLY

The Special Designated Milks on sale in the area are Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised. Sterilised Milk is not retailed in Paignton.

(i) Dairies and Distributors

There is 1 dairy registered, and 26 persons are registered as distributors of milk.

Dealer's licenses issued during 1957, authorising the use of special designation in respect of milk retailed, were as follows :

Special Designation " Pasteurised "	.....	.....	.....	25
Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested "	.....	.....	.....	12
Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) "				23

Four retailers were also issued with Dealer's Supplementary licences authorising the use of the Special Designations " Pasteurised," " Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) " and " Tuberculin Tested."

(ii) Sampling

Samples taken from local retailers and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter, for bacteriological examination gave the following results :

						Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	1
Tuberculin Tested	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1

B. MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

(i) Meat Inspection

Slaughtering during the whole of the year took place at the Council's Slaughter-house at Luscombe Lane.

The tolls for use of the Slaughter-house are 10/- per unit. Slaughtering is carried out by a Contractor who deals directly with the meat traders.

The amount received in tolls to the end of the year was £1090. 16. 4.

No cases of congenital tuberculosis in calves were recorded during the year.

The numbers of animals inspected by the Public Health Inspectors during 1957 are shown below, together with the numbers affected with tuberculosis and other conditions warranting condemnation :

Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
976	78	145	2636	1043	—

Total : 4878

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned during 1957

	Cattle excl'dg. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	976	78	145	2636	1043	—
Number inspected	976	78	145	2636	1043	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	2	3	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	179	29	1	72	71	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	18.34	34.49	2.07	2.84	6.81	—
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	21	5	—	—	21	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.24	7.77	—	—	2.01	—
Cysticercosis :						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	7	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	7	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The total weight of meat condemned at the slaughterhouse was 2 tons 9 cwt. 0qrs. 20lbs.

The eight cases of Cysticercosis Bovis represented 0.76% of the total number inspected.

(ii) Inspection of Other Foods

Unsound Food

List of Canned Foods Condemned :

Meats	.....	.....	.....	438
Vegetables		.....	.....	353
Fruit	.....	.....	.....	946
Soup	.....	.....	.....	22
Milk	.....	.....	.....	85
Fish	.....	.....		72
Preserves and Pickles			.....	31
Puddings		.....	.....	2
Fruit Juices		.....	.....	45
Cat Food		.....	.....	2

1996

Approximate weight of canned foodstuffs condemned, 22cwt.

Other Foods Condemned :

Meat	.....	.....	128 lbs.
Sausages		.....	90 lbs.
Hares		.....	80 lbs.
Pearl Barley		.....	2 lbs.
Crystals		.....	59 bottles
Cockles		.....	144 jars
Pastes (various)			5 jars
Jelly	.....	.....	1 jar
Cheese	.....	.....	55 lbs.
Cheese	.....	.....	7 packets
Fish	.....	.....	19cwt. 2qrs. 2½lbs.

Diseases of Animals Act, 1950

No cases were reported during the year.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Amendment Regulations, 1952.

These Regulations allow a high temperature short time heat treatment as contrasted with a longer time at a lower temperature ; but special apparatus has to be installed to ensure adequate thermostatic control, the maintenance of an even rate of flow during the heat treatment, and an automatic device to divert any mixture which has not been raised to the prescribed temperature.

There is no installation of this type in the District.

The following table gives a comparison of the results of samples taken during the past seven years :

Total number of samples taken	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
	104	97	85	73	97	89	87
Grade 1	48.1%	55.6%	55.3%	65.7%	43.3%	75.3%	64.4%
Grade 2	8.6%	29.2%	20.0%	19.2%	29.0%	13.5%	26.4%
Grade 3	20.2%	4.1%	21.2%	11.0%	15.5%	5.6%	4.6%
Grade 4	23.1%	11.1%	3.5%	4.1%	10.2%	5.6%	4.6%

Shellfish

11 samples of crab meat were taken during the year. The results of the canned crab processed at the local factory were very satisfactory.

In addition to applying the test recommended by the Fishmongers' Company, samples are also examined for other types of bacteria likely to be present.

All samples are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Exeter, whose staff have been most co-operative and helpful

The following tables give the bacterial counts.

Bacteriological Examination of Shellfish

Sample	Bact. coli per ml. of Flesh	Organisms of Enteric Dysentery Group	Conclusion
2 Cockles	Nil	Nil	Satisfactory
5 Cockles	less than 1	Nil	Satisfactory
1 Cockles	less than 5	Nil	Satisfactory
1 Cockles	more than 5	Nil	Suspicious
	less than 15		
2 Mussels	less than 1	Nil	Satisfactory
2 Whelks	less than 1	Nil	Satisfactory
1 Whelks	Nil	Nil	Satisfactory
1 Oyster	less than 1	Nil	Satisfactory
1 Winkles	less than 1	Nil	Satisfactory
1 Winkles	less than 5	Nil	Satisfactory

Bacteriological Examination of Crab Meat

Sample	Total Count per Gram	Chromogenic cocci	Coliforms	Staphylococcus Aureus	Staphylococcus Albus	Micrococci	Clostridia Group	Enteric Group
Red Meat	2,600	600	1,100	Nil	500	400	Nil	Nil
Red Meat	10,000	7,000	1,000	Nil	2,000	—	Nil	Nil
Red Meat	23,000	4,000	7,000	Nil	3,000	9,000	Nil	Nil
Red Meat	700	200	100	Nil	400	—	Nil	Nil
Red Meat	36,000	—	5,000	Nil	1,000	30,000	Nil	Nil
White Meat	115,000	—	91,000	Nil	4,000	20,000	Nil	Nil
White Meat	15,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	13,000	—	Nil	Nil
White Meat	110,000	17,000	18,000	Nil	15,000	60,000	Nil	Nil
White Meat	19,000	6,000	2,000	Nil	8,000	3,000	Nil	Nil
White Meat	25,000	—	7,000	Nil	3,000	15,000	Nil	Nil*
White Meat	60,000	7,000	28,000	Nil	15,000	10,000	Nil	Nil*

*Fæcal coli present in 1 gram. Absent in 1/10th gram.

One tin of mixed crab meat was found to be sterile

C. CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGNS

(i) The number of food premises in the area, by type of business :

There are 353 food premises in the area, comprising :

Grocers and Greengrocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	86
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
Fishmongers :					
Wet	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Fried	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Wet and Fried	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Greengrocer/Fishmongers	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Holiday Camp Shops/Kitchens	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Butchers	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
Baker/Pastrycook Retail Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Bakehouses and Patisseries	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Mineral Water and Beer Bottling Establishments	.....				2
Winery	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Licensed Premises :					
Public	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Private	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
Wines and Spirits	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Shellfish Processors	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Confectioners	.....	.....	.....	.....	52
Cooked Meats Vendor	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Fruit and Vegetable Warehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Kiosks and seasonal structures :					
Refreshments/Ice Cream	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Shellfish	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Candyfloss, Toffee Apples	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Fruiterers	.....	.....	.....	.....	2

- (ii) The number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 :

There are 77 vendors and 5 manufacturers registered for the sale or manufacture of ice cream. The types of premises retailing this commodity are as follows :

Baker/Confectioner	.....	.....	.....	1
Grocers	.....	.....	.....	17
Greengrocers/Fruiterers	.....	.....	.....	3
Confectioners	.....	.....	.....	39
General Stores	.....	.....	.....	4
Kiosks	.....	.....	.....	8
Multiple Store	.....	.....	.....	1
Holiday Camp Shops	.....	.....	.....	4

In addition to the above, ice cream is retailed at 20 restaurants, 10 snackbars, 3 cinemas, 1 theatre, and a summer pavilion.

Of the 5 ice cream manufacturers, 4 manufacture by hot mix, and 1 by cold mix.

44 premises are registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale. These comprise :

Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Butchers	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Fish Fryers	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Grocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	4

There is one dairy registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

- (iii) The number of inspections of registered food premises.

Of the 1065 inspections of all types of food establishments listed below, 280 inspections were made in respect of registered premises :

Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	.....	.....	198
Bakehouses	.....	.....	40
Bakers, Confectioners Shops	.....	.....	67
Hotel and Guest House Kitchens	.....	.....	164
Butchers	.....	.....	93
Grocers/Greengrocers	.....	.....	203
Ice Cream Vendors and Manufacturers	.....	.....	109
Dairies	.....	.....	2
Wet and Fried Fish Shops	.....	.....	68
Shellfish Dealers	.....	.....	14
Cooked Meat Vendors	.....	.....	8
Licensed Premises	.....	.....	41
Mineral Water and Beer Bottling Establishments	.....	.....	4
Mobile Canteens	.....	.....	4

Food Delivery Vans and Itinerant Vendors	.....	30
Factory Canteens	.....	2
Beach Kiosks	.....	17
Winery	.....	1

188 Informal Notices were served specifying work to be carried out to enable premises to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations. 164 of these were complied with by the end of the year.

(iv) Food Hygiene Lectures

Past experience has shown that the education of food handlers in a seaside town has to take place in the kitchen, rather than holding meetings after working hours. Considerable time is spent at business premises explaining the various points as they apply in each individual case.

(v) Disposal of Condemned Food

Condemned meat from the slaughterhouse is disposed of by the butchers to a by-products manufacturing firm, who arrange for the transport.

All other condemned foodstuffs are disposed of under supervision at the Council's refuse tip.

SECTION D

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1948

149 inspections were made in respect of 173 premises listed in the Factories Register. 3 outworkers were listed in August as required by Section 110(1) (c).

The following table is a summary of information already supplied in detail to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (revised) in respect of the year 1957.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Factories without Mechanical Power :

Number on Register	.....	.....	23
Inspections	.....	.....	23
Written Notices	.....	.....	0

Factories with Mechanical Power :

Number on Register	.....	.....	134
Inspections	.....	.....	107
Written Notices	.....	.....	0

Other Premises under the Act :

(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building Operations, Works of Engineering Construction, but excluding Outworkers' Premises).

Number on Register	.....	.....	16
Inspections	.....	.....	19
Written Notices	.....	.....	0

2. Cases in which Defects were found

Defects	Found	Remedied
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :		
(a) Insufficient	3	3
(b) Unsuitable or defective	9	9
Total Defects referred to H.M. Inspector	.....	0
Total Defects referred by H.M. Inspector	.....	3

SECTION E

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

58 licenses to store 99,016 gallons of petroleum were issued.

Premises are visited periodically during the year, and all premises are visited at least once per year with the Fire Officer, who examines the fire fighting appliances and gives valuable advice on the subject of fire prevention. Licencees are requested to provide two gallon foam extinguishers in the vicinity of the storage tanks.

Fifteen informal requests were made to provide or refill fire extinguishers, repair vents or exhibit abstracts. Eleven requests were complied with by the end of the year, and in no case was it necessary to take formal action in order to get the work done.

EXPLOSIVES ACTS, 1875 AND 1923

Twenty-nine licences were issued for the storage of gunpowder and mixed explosives.

Classification of Stores :

Explosives in magazine—Mode “ A ”—Two.

Shops for the sale of Class 6 Division 3 explosives—cartridges—Four.

Shops for the sale of Class 7 Division 2 explosives—fireworks—Twenty-six.

SECTION F

HOUSING OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1957

Six houses were completed at Foxhole during December. Twenty-eight houses and twenty-eight flats became vacant during the year and four houses were loaned back to the Council by Standard Telephones and Cables Limited. This enabled forty-three families to be re-housed from the Housing List and twenty-three families to be transferred to more suitable accommodation. Two exchanges took place between local tenants, and two families exchanged premises with tenants of other Local Authorities.

The units constructed consisted of :

- (a) 4 four-room houses at an inclusive rental of 32/10d.
- (b) 2 five-room houses at an inclusive rental of 33/3d.

The inclusive rentals increased slightly during the year to 20/4d. for a four-room pre-war house to 38/4d. for a six-room post-war house. The cheapest old persons' bungalows were 18/0d. per week.

The Housing (Allocation) Committee, under the Chairmanship of Mrs. E. A. Flemons, held two meetings for the allocation of tenancies during the year.

The following premises were allocated during 1957 :

New Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Existing Houses (including 4 transfers)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
Existing Flats (including 19 transfers)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
						<hr/>
						66

Allocations were made for the following reasons :

					Families	Persons	
Overcrowded conditions	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	40	
Unsuitable conditions	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	32	
Health reasons	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	11	
Key worker	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	
Court Order	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	14	
Miscellaneous reasons	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	45	
Demolition or Closing Orders	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	9	
					<hr/>	<hr/>	
					43	154	
Transfers	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	92	
					<hr/>	<hr/>	
					66	246	
Transfers of tenancies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Sub-Tenancies granted	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Exchanges between tenants	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Exchanges with other Local Authorities	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2

Types of Families Allocated to Houses and Flats during 1957

			Families	Persons
Two person families	.....	.....	7	14
Three person families	.....	.....	24	72
Four person families	.....	.....	20	80
Five person families	.....	.....	11	55
Six person families	.....	.....	3	18
Seven person families	.....	.....	1	7
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			66	246

Number of New Houses occupied on the Foxhole Estate during 1957

			Houses	Persons
Two person families	.....	.....	1	2
Three person families	.....	.....	1	3
Four person families	.....	.....	3	12
Five person families	.....	.....	1	5
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			6	22

Housing Estates

Number of pre-war Council Houses	.....	.....		393
Number of post-war houses on the Foxhole Estate			238	
Number of post-war maisonettes on the Foxhole Estate	.....	.....	12	
Number of post-war flats on the Foxhole Estate			308	
			<hr/>	558
Number of post-war houses on other estates				117
				<hr/>
Total number of Council properties	.....	.....		1068

The growth of the new estate at Foxhole is shown by the following figures giving the increase in population since the allocation of the first tenancy in August, 1949 :

Estimated population at the end of :

1949	.....	.....	135
1950	.....	.....	381
1951	.....	.....	736
1952	.....	.....	936
1953	.....	.....	1300
1954	.....	.....	1600
1955	.....	.....	1656
1956	.....	.....	1892
1957	.....	.....	2081

Average number of persons per unit for 1957 : 3.65.

Housing List

The Housing List consisted of the following applicants on 31st December, 1957 :

One person families	.....	.....	.....	22
Two person families	.....	.....	.....	123
Three person families	.....	.....	.....	109
Four person families	.....	.....	.....	56
Five person families	.....	.....	.....	20
Six person families	.....	.....	.....	5
Eight person family	.....	.....	.....	1
Pensioners	.....	.....	.....	134
Short List	.....	.....	.....	9
				<hr/>
				479
Under five years residence in Paignton	.....			31
Outside List	.....	.....	.....	127
				<hr/>
				637

301 visits were made in connection with applications for Council houses, and one visit was made for another Authority.

442 interviews were held with applicants.

SECTION G

RIPARIAN HEALTH DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON

A detailed Report based upon the instructions of the Ministry of Health contained in Circulars 33/52 and 16/55, and in Form Port 20, is required by not later than March 31st, each year. The appropriate Report on the Riparian Health District of Paignton was compiled for the year 1957, and posted to the Ministry on March 5th, 1958.

A very brief summary of that Report is given here, as it gives some indication of another responsibility undertaken by your Public Health Department and Staff.

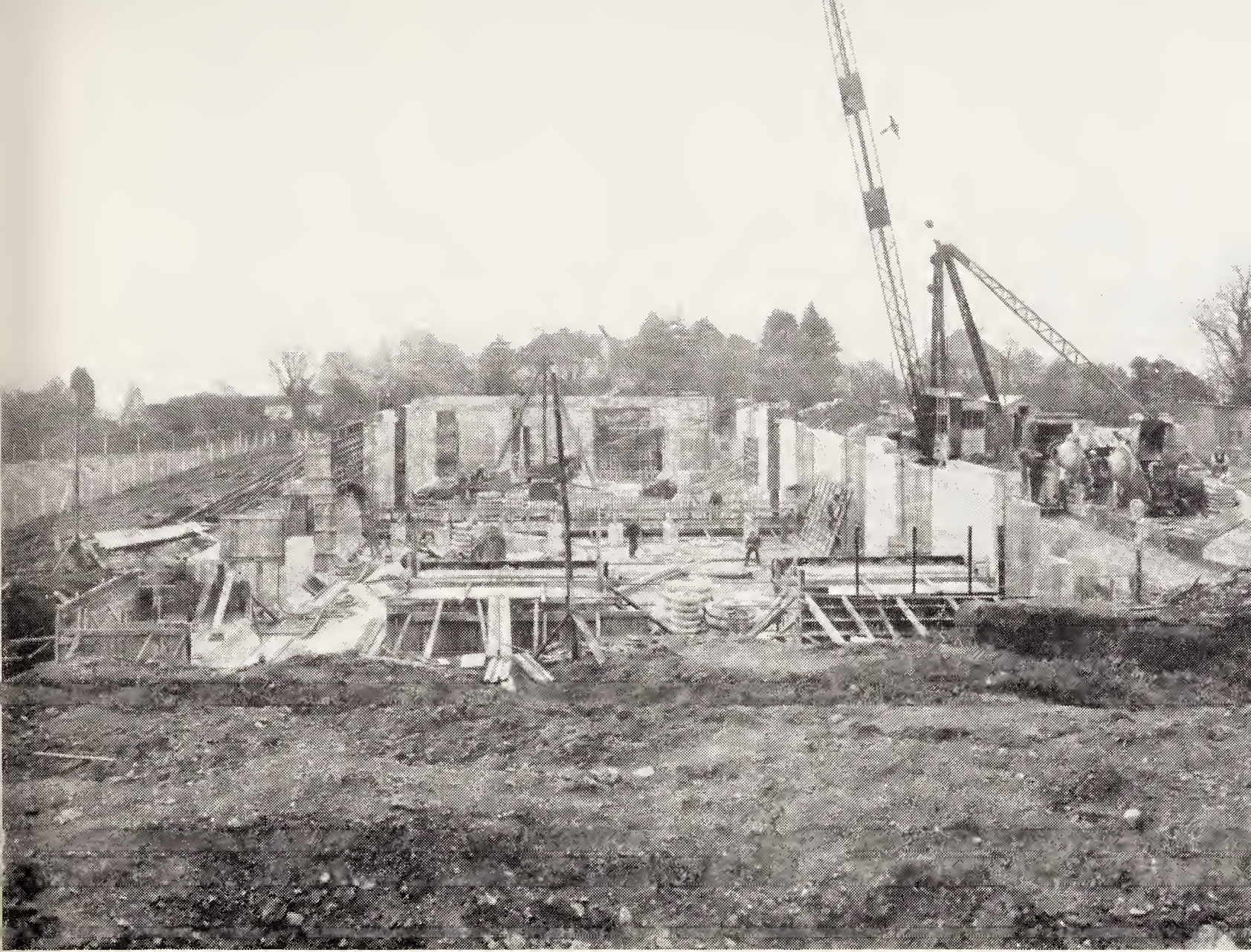
Your Medical Officer of Health, Chief Public Health Inspector, and the Rodent Operator, are the staff chiefly concerned with Riparian Health. The duties, during 1957, were purely nominal, since no coastwise or foreign ships entered the district, and as there are no rivers or canals at Paignton, the Report states that no inland barge traffic was seen in the area. Arrangements are stated for supplying ships with pure drinking water, and details are given stating how radio messages and semaphore messages from ships would be received respectively via Niton Radio (Isle of Wight), and Berry Head Coastguard Station, Brixham.

Medical arrangements for dealing with sick members of the crews of ships are specified, together with ambulance arrangements (which latter are similar to those outlined in the foregoing Section B of this Report).

Arrangements for inspection of ships for rats, and the deratting of ships, are detailed.

The Riparian Health Report also states that there are no shellfish beds or layings within the area, and there is also a note that no aliens were medically examined, since Paignton is not a port approved under the Aliens Order, 1920.

Finally, there is a sombre statement detailing arrangements which would be made for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.



Paignton Waterworks Department

FERNICOMBE RESERVOIR (Capacity, one million gallons)
—*During Construction*



Paignton Waterworks Department

FERNICOMBE RESERVOIR (Capacity, one million gallons)
—*During Construction*

